

to her length is roof, I was there also.

"I am red, for none of her hand or eyes are as red as mine," she said, "I am happy that made me. That Christmas night I felt that I must tell her so."

"I had enough to live on. I was rising in consideration of our place. I should be rich some day."

"Impulse became my master. I hurried through the rooms looking for her. I found her lying down with a cousin, who had the impudence to look tenderly at her. Only a cousin's courtesy too. His mother had married someone whose first wife was an orphan's son."

"I watched the game through, then I offered her my arm."

"Will you sing for me?" I asked.

"She smiled. I led her to the piano. She was deserted just then."

"Before you sing, I have something very particular which I wish to say," I said.

"She flushed suddenly. She looked down triumphantly upon her watch chain. Then I paused—the words did not come easily. I hesitated."

"Will you—dare I—?" I stammered.

"Just then a rustle and sweep of silk fell upon my ear. Two old ladies passed us in arm. They were talking earnestly."

"See! an independent match," said one; "he had nothing. Every one prophesied they'd come to want, and they have. How foolish young people are!"

"They passed, but I heard the words. I thought of Uncle Oliver. Mercy on a mere salary? Madness, absurdity!"

"It is this, I—I want to hear it sung," I stammered, and snatched a piece of music at random from the pile beside me. "I—I—admire it so."

"Then Cousin Ruth must sing it. I am not a German scholar," said Jessie, for I had taken up a song in that language, which I knew nothing about by mistake."

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"But Jessie did not give me her hand. She drew back from me, turning very pale."

"I hope you are mistaken in your feeling," she said, "for I cannot return them."

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"And then I told her how often words of love had been at my lips, and I had forced them back. I told her I remembered so well, so vividly."

"She was pale as death when I ceased. She put me back when I would have taken her hand, with a motion of her own."

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"name will love a man long who does not love her."

"She smiled at me a little scornfully. I thought."

"Your great presence prevented me from knowing it," she said. "It Christmas evening ended all the joy. You have been nothing to me since that moment but what you are now—a file of you can never be anything more."

"Jessie," I cried, "I shall command; if you could say you never cared for me, it would be a relief enough, but to own that you have loved me, and to show that of your own free will, is too much to bear. I will have it again, Jessie. I will."

"I said, 'I must not fear this I am engaged to Captain Hawthorn.'"

"You say this to torment me," I cried. "A stranger—a mere acquaintance!"

"We have known each other a fortnight, and been engaged a week," said Jessie, blushing deeply. "We are not prudent people, you know. From the moment our eyes met, I wondered that I ever cared for any one else. Oh, Mr. Patterson, I am sorry you feel this so deeply. I cannot think myself to blame."

"For tears had rushed into my eyes, and I had hidden them from her in my trembling hands. She was not to blame—prudence had done it all—the prudence which was my pride. I had thought enough in my heart, heaven knows, but my relief and self-reproach were too great. I could say no more. I opened the door and went out. I have never spoken to her since."

"People call me Prudence Patterson now. I merit the name. Yet, sometimes, when I look back upon my lonely life, and remember how Jessie Ashburton once loved me—when I think that a home would have been with her love to light it, even a less splendid home than mine—and how lonely and desolate I often am; when I pass her leaving on her husband's arm and I hear how they climbed life's hill together, hand in hand, I wonder whether prudence may not be carried too far in this mistaken world of ours, or whether one should weigh it in the balance with love."

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Fee, S. relating to school districts. To the committee.

By Mr. Green, to amend the act to incorporate the Green, Moan and Senary; to general committee.

JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

H. bill relating to the election of certain officers of the Supreme Court, &c.,—referred from the House with the second proposal of amendment non-concurred in.

The Senate received.

BILLS PASSED.

S. 7, amending the act to incorporate the Lamotte Valley Railroad Co., &c.,—referred from the House with the second proposal of amendment non-concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Hard—Adjourned.

HOUSE.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. Dunn of Fairfax, to amend acts, 18 & 19 of chap. 70, general statutes, relating to divorces; to general committee.

By Mr. Eddy of Gloucester, to legalize the grand list of the town of Gloucester for the year 1868; to committee on grand list.

By Mr. Groat of Barton, to amend chap. 83, general statutes, entitled of the grand list [directing the Secretary of State to distribute to each town in the State, on or before the first day of June in each year, blanks on which to make up abstracts of the grand list, to be returned to the Secretary of State on or before the first day of the session of the Legislature, and imposing a penalty upon town clerks for failure to comply with the provisions of the law]; to committee on grand list.

By Mr. Hoskinson of Mt. Holly, to legalize the grand list of the town of Mt. Holly for 1868; to committee on grand list.

By Mr. Morse of Plymouth, to protect fish in Duck Pond; to general committee.

By Mr. Dunn of Fairfax, to define the line of a lot of land in certain cases [where the corners are known, the line to be the horses distance between them, however crooked the fence may be, unless by agreement of the parties in writing]; to committee on judiciary.

By Mr. G. H. of Roxbury, to incorporate the South Royton Water Co.; to committee on corporations.

By Mr. Underwood of Hardwick, to protect fish and low in Tattle Pond in Massachusetts; to general committee.

By Mr. G. H. of Roxbury, to protect fish in Chandler Pond; to general committee.

By Mr. Gibb of Salem, to legalize the grand list of the town of Salem for the year 1868; to committee on grand list.

By Mr. Cook of Corinth, to pay Jos. H. Chubb the sum then in named; to committee on claims.

By Mr. Hubbard of Concord, to legalize the grand list of the town of Burke for the years 1864, 1865, and 1866; to committee on grand list.

By Mr. Proctor of Rutland, providing for building a court house in the county of Rutland, and levying a tax on said county; to a select committee consisting of member from the county of Rutland.

From the Senate, S. 7, to construe as in amendment of the act, approved Oct. 24, 1867, to